

North Vietnamese Suggested U.S. Kill Thieu in Talks, General Quoted

NEW YORK, Jan. 15 (UPI)—The top North Vietnamese negotiator once suggested that the United States assassinate South Vietnamese President Nguyen Van Thieu as a condition for peace, Newsweek magazine today quoted a retired U.S. general as saying in a forthcoming book.

The magazine said Lt. Gen. Vernon Walters, who attended the Paris peace talks between Henry A. Kissinger and

Le Duc Tho in the early 1970s, discusses the incident in his forthcoming autobiography, "Silent Missions."

According to Newsweek, Walters quotes Le Duc Tho as saying about Thieu: "You know what to do . . . get rid of him." Kissinger, the quote continues, asked, "Do you mean that we should kill him?" And Le Duc Tho answered: "Yes, but you don't have to put that in the agreement."